

JOSHUA-RUTH BRYANT

ZACHARIAH, THUS WM. JOHN / Rector Moore, Vaughn, Carroll Moore, (Greed)
Amelia Co. Va. Carroll (Piper's Gap) Va. Garrell, Va.
DRAWER 1A ROKNOKE COLONY.

71.2009.085.05562

Hanks Family

Virginia

Joshua & Ruth Bryant Hanks

Excerpts from newspapers and other
sources

From the files of the
Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection




Seattle, Washington.
November 21st, 1926.

Mr. Louise A. Warren,
The Century Company,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Sir:

While I was in the vicinity of Galax, Gracin County, Virginia an old gentlemen pointed out to me the site of a log cabin where he stated the mother of Abraham Lincoln was born. Do you know if this could be true? There are a number of Hanks still living in that vicinity and I was informed that the editor of the paper published in Hillsville, Va. had investigated the matter and had secured proof.

Yours very truly,


Thos. M. Gibbs,

2024 East Lynn Street,
Seattle, Washington.

November 29, 1926

Thomas. M. Gibbs
2034 East Lynn St.
Seattle, Wash.

My dear Mr. Gibbs:

I thank you for calling to my attention the traditions in Grayson County, Virginia, which find the birthplace of Nancy Hanks Lincoln near that place.

I have in my Hanks files data on Joshua Hanks who lived near Papers Gap. He had seventeen children many of whom lived in Carroll County, Va. He was born in 1760 and it was possibly one of his sons who married the father of the above mentioned Nancy Hanks.

The tradition which you have run across is undoubtedly this same tradition, but we lack sufficient documentary affirmation to give it authority. I shall be very glad to take up the matter with the editor of the paper at Hillsville, county seat of Carroll county, and inquire if any further evidence about the family is available.

Your information is greatly appreciated, and I thank you for it.

Respectfully yours,

Frank G. Denny

Galat Va

Box 222

Feb 16. 1838

On Lewis a Woman

Fort Wayne Ind

Sir I have just read an article
 in a paper that Nancy Hanks the
 mother of Abraham Lincoln was of
 illegitimate birth and that you after
 investigating the matter and I wish
 to inform you that Nancy Hanks
 was born within three miles of this
 place a part of the Stone chimney
 built in those days is still standing
 also the stone pillars are still
 standing where the church was
 where her mother went to worship
 an old man of the Hanks family
 who is now dead traced the
 family of the Hankses back to her
 birth and wrote it far print
 but died before having it put in
 print I believe it can be found

I will try and find it if it
will be of any benefit to you
I am an old man and
limited in means but will
help to the best of my ability
in erecting a marker to the
birth place of such a great woman
Can it be done by private
subscription lets try it
There is a granite quarry in
less than 30 miles of here where
we can have it prepared cheap
Respt. I. J. Jones

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Her birth place is in the extreme
South Western part of Carroll County
Virginia near the Virginia
and NC state line

I of course am a stranger to you
but refer you to any official
or Bank in Carroll County & a
as to my reliability

Since writing the enclosed letter I have
learned that Rev L. W. McFarland of
Snow Camp N. H. is or has been
principal of Wake Forest College. He
has the records of the old Friesels
church where Nancy Hanks
mother worshipped and was a
member. I expect she was
buried at this church I would
go to the cemetery and try and
learn but am in poor health
and can't go at present.

There is a marker in the ceme-
tery over 150 years old
her mother was buried there
without a doubt.

Write Rev L. W. McFarland ^{at snow camp} and I
am sure you will get some
interesting information.

Respectfully,
I remain
Dear me for writing with pencil
and so nervous I can't do more.

February 27, 1933

Mr. L. J. James
Galax, Virginia

My dear Mr. James:

Of course, I am very much interested in your letter which locates the birthplace of Nancy Hanks at a point near Galax, Virginia.

It would indeed be very valuable if you could find the old history written by the elderly man whom you say has passed away. I should like very much to look it over if you are able to find it.

As you suggest, I am writing a letter to Rev. McFarland and trust I will be able to learn something from him relative to the records of the church, which he has in his possession. Enclosed you will please find some little bulletins which I thought you might enjoy reading and, of course, we will be very glad to cooperate in helping to mark the place if we get positive evidence that Nancy Hanks was born there.

Very sincerely yours,

LAW:LH
Enc.

Director
Lincoln Historical Research Foundation

Galax Va Hawks

February 27, 1933

Rev. L. W. McFarland
Wake Forest College
Snow Camp, North Carolina

My dear Mr. McFarland:

I have recently been advised by Mr. L. J. Jaines of Galax, Virginia that you have in your possession the old records of the French church where Nancy Hanks' mother worshiped. Inasmuch as we have been trying for many years to get the history of Nancy Hanks straightened out, I would appreciate very much any assistance you might give me in locating the Hanks family.

I am enclosing some bulletins which will suggest something of what has been done and some of the conclusions which have been drawn, but as yet we are not able to put our finger on the definite part where the Hankses lived at the time of Nancy's birth.

You may be sure that anything you do will be greatly appreciated.

Very sincerely yours,

LAW:LH
Enc.

Director
Lincoln Historical Research Foundation



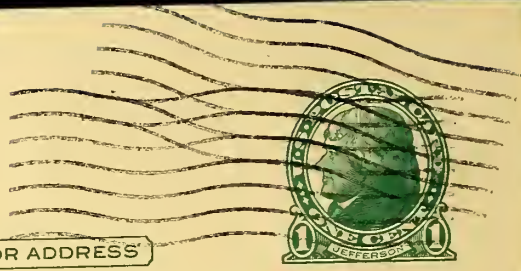
11 - 18 Nov., 1936-

Seeing an article in
Lynchburg News of the 15th
inst. of your interest in
the life of Nancy Hanks,
I send you this. When
staying in Galax, Va. dur-
ing the past summer &
visiting places of interest
in that section, I visited
an old cemetery where
were graves of many Hanks,
all said to be kind-foth of
Nancy. I also visited the re-
mains of an old home said
to be her uncle's residence
where she spent much time.
I feel sure that Miss Vermy
Caldwell of the Bluemont
Hotel at Galax could might
give you much interesting in-

Information about her -
Sincerely, Mrs. L. S. Corning -
Dumont-Apt. 11, Va.
Lynchburg, Va.

LYNCHBURG
NOV 18
8:30 PM
1936
VA.

THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS



Dr. Louis A. Harren,
Fort Wayne, Ind. -

THE BLUEMONT HOTEL
E. C. AND R. P. CALDWELL, PROPRIETORS
C. S. MUSE, MGR.
GALAX, VIRGINIA

Nov. 30. 1936.

Dr. Louis A. Warren,
Fort Wayne, Ind.

Dear Dr. Warren:-

Yours of Nov. 24th received and noted. Our investigation I find there is a book in this community written by Mrs. Caroline Hanks Hitchcock, (only one) that I can send you a typewritten copy of, if it is not already in your possession.

I notice in Sincere Love that you refer to Mrs. Hitchcock. The Hanks family is known

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THE BLUEMONT HOTEL
E. C. AND R. P. CALDWELL, PROPRIETORS
C. S. MUSE, MGR.
GALAX, VIRGINIA

incent here, but so far as I
know there have been no
records kept.

One of my good friends,
Mrs. Rita Wilkinson Cox, is
grand daughter of Ored Hawks
one of the most prominent Hawks
families here. and she will be
glad to give you the connection
so far as she knows it, but it
does not seem that records have
been kept of the family in ^{this} ~~section~~

Write me if you have a
copy of Mrs. Hitchcock's book.

Yours Cordially.

(Miss) Vinnie Caldwell

Creed Hanks Van

December 3, 1936

Miss Vinnie Caldwell
The Bluemont Hotel
Galax, Virginia

Dear Madam:

Thank you very much for your very prompt reply to my letter of inquiry about the Hanks family, and I am pleased to inform you that I do have a copy of ~~The~~ Caroline Hanks Hitchcock's book on the Hanks Family.

We have been interested to note that the Caldwell family inter-married with the Shipleys, Mitchells and other cognate families of the early days in Bedford County, Virginia, so it is quite certain they were related to the Hankses.

You might be interested to know that John Caldwell was the administrator of the pioneer Abraham Lincoln's estate in Kentucky.

As you suggest, I will correspond with Mrs. Rita Wilkinson Cox, who may be able to help me sum in tracing the family line.

Very truly yours

LAW:LH

Director



